CHICAGO RECYCLING GUIDE: A-Z

What Can and Cannot be Recycling in Chicago's Blue Cart and Drop-off Center Program

Material	Is Material accepted in Chicago's Blue Cart Program or at Recycling Drop-Off Centers?	Alternative Recycling Outlet	Mail or Drop-Off Program	Address	Phone	Website	Details and/or Restrictions
A Aerosol cans	Yes	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	Must be empty
							Accepted aluminum includes cans, clean
Aluminum	Yes	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA 1) www.salvationarmy.com	tin foil, pie tins. 1) Working appliances only
Appliances (Household)	No	Multiple	Drop Off	Salvation Army Recycling Information Center	1) NA 2) 1-800-YES- 1-CAN	2) http://www.aham.org/consumer/ht/d/sp/i/4 7286/pid/47286	Call the Recycling Information Center for nearby metal recycling facilities that accept appliances
B	140	Willipie	Біор Оп	Cerlier	I-CAIN	7 2007 pia7 47 200	ассері аррішісез
Baby bottles (plastic or				1) Goodwill		1) www.goodwill.com	
glass)	No	Multiple	Drop Off	2) Salvation Army 1) Walgreens Photo Counter	NA	2) www.salvationarmy.com	NA All common dry cell batteries, including
Batteries (dry cell)	No	Multiple	Drop Off	2) Chicago Public Library	NA	1) www.walgreens.com 2) www.chipublib.org	alkaline, rechargeable, and other common types can be recycled
		Household Chemicals		·			
5		& Computer		1150 N. North Branch		, fl. (e	Hours: Tu 7-noon; Th 2-7pm, 1st Saturday
Batteries (lead acid)	No	Recycling Facility Working Bikes	Drop Off	St., Chicago IL 60642 2434 S. Western Ave.	NA	www.cityofchicago.org/Environment	of the month 8am - 3 pm
Bicycles	No	Cooperative	Drop Off	Chicago IL 60608	773-847-5440	www.workingbikes.org	Hours: Mon-Sat noon-5pm
Books (paperback)	Yes	NA	NA	NA 1) Goodwill	NA	www.chicagorecycles.org	NA
Books (hard cover)	No	Multiple	Drop Off	2) Salvation Army 3) Reading Tree: Books for Charity	NA	www.goodwill.com www.salvationarmy.com www.readingtree.org	NA
Dooks (naid corol)	110	mompie	5.0p G.			ey www.iodailigiiod.org	.,,,
Bras	No	The Bra Recyclers	Drop Off and Mail	3317 S. Higley Rd, Ste 114-441, Gilbert, AZ 85297	480-988-2283	http://brarecycling.com	Should be in good condition
Brown Paper Bags	Yes	NA	NA	NA	NA	www.chicagorecycles.org	NA
Bubble Wrap	No	Multiple The ReBuilding	Drop Off	Earth911.com 3335 W. 47th St.,	NA	www.earth911.com	NA Email info@rebuildingexchange.org to see
Building Materials	No	Exchange	Drop Off	Chicago IL 60632	773-847-3761	http://www.rebuildingexchange.org/	if they'll accept your materials
Candy wrappers	No	TerraCycle	Mail	NA	NA	www.terracycle.com	Must join a "brigade" to get mailing details
		,					Check Earth911.com for the location
Car batteries Cardboard	No Yes	Multiple NA	Drop Off NA	Earth911.com NA	NA NA	www.earth911.com www.chicagorecycles.org	nearest to you NA
Carpet (nylon)	No	Multiple		Carpet Recovery Shaw Carpet	NA	www.carpetrecovery.org shawfloors.com/about-shaw/carpet-recycling	2) Any carpet (500sq yards or more) with EcoWorx backing will be collected, transported and recycled for free, regardless if its being replaced with Shaw Carpet. Shaw Carpet will collect, transport and recycle any type of carpet (7500sq yards or more) if it is being replaced by a Shaw product, for free.
CDs	No	Multiple	Drop Off and Mail	Earth911.com	NA	www.earth911.com	NA
Cell phones	No	Multiple	Drop Off and Mail	1) Household Chemicals & Computer Recycling Facility (1150 N. North Branch St., Chicago IL 60642) 2) Earth911.com	NA	1) www.cityofchicago.org/Environment 2) www.earth911.com	1) Hours: Tu 7-noon; Th 2-7pm, 1st Saturday of the month 8am - 3 pm 2) Check Earth911.com for the location nearest to you
Chip Bags	No	TerraCycle	Mail	NA	NA	www.terracycle.com	Must join a "brigade" to get mailing details
Christmas/string lights	No	Multiple	Drop Off and Mail	Earth911.com	NA	www.earth911.com	Search for "string lights"
Cleaning Products							
(bleach, drain cleaner, and other harsh		Household Chemicals & Computer		1150 N. North Branch			Hours: Tu 7-noon; Th 2-7pm, 1st Saturday
cleaners)	No	Recycling Facility	Drop Off	St., Chicago IL 60642	NA	www.cityofchicago.org/Environment	of the month 8am - 3 pm
Clabia	N	AA Just	Day Off	1) Goodwill 2) Salvation Army 3) Gaia		1) www.goodwill.com 2) www.salvationarmy.com 3) http://www.gaia- movement.org/TextPage.asp?TxtID=390⋐ MenultemID=103&MenultemID=47	,,,
Clothing Compact Florescent	No	Multiple	Drop Off	4) USAgain 1) Household Chemicals & Computer Recycling Facility (1150 N. North Branch St., Chicago IL 60642) 2) Home Depot 3) Ikea	NA	4) http://www.usagain.com/ 1) www.cityofchicago.org/Environment 2) www.homedepot.com 3) www.ikea.com 4) www.truevalue.com	NA 1) Hours: Tu 7-noon; Th 2-7pm, 1st Saturday of the month 8am - 3 pm 2) NA 3) NA 4) NA
Lightbulbs (CFLs)	No	Multiple Household Chemicals	Drop Off	4) True Value	NA	5) www.acehardware.com	5) NA
		& Computer		1150 N. North Branch		. (I)	Hours: Tu 7-noon; Th 2-7pm, 1st Saturday
Computer	No	Recycling Facility	Drop Off	St., Chicago IL 60642	NA	www.cityofchicago.org/Environment	of the month 8am - 3 pm

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Construction Debris	No	Recycling Systems Incorporated	Drop Off	3152 South California Avenue, Chicago, IL 60608	NA	www.recyclingsystemsinc.com	Call for a quote (773-579-0100). Construction debris can also be posted on Craigslist or the Construction Material Depot (www.cmdepot.com)
Corks	No	Multiple	Drop Off	1) Broadway Cellars (5900 N. Broadway) 2) Whole Foods	NA	1) NA 2) www.wholefoods.com	1) NA 2) Visit website to find the nearest location
Crayons (broken)	No	Crazy Crayons	Mail	NA	NA	www.crazycrayons.com	Only accept crayons made in the United States
Diapers (cloth)	No	Multiple	NA	1) Craigslist 2) FreeCycle	NA	1) www.chicago.craigslist.org 2) www.freecycle.org	Consider selling on Craigslist or FreeCycle
Diapers (disposable)	No	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	Disposal diapers should be thrown away
Denim	No	Multiple	Drop Off	Goodwill Salvation Army	NA	www.goodwill.com www.salvationarmy.com	NA
Drink Pouches	No	TerraCycle	Mail	NA	NA	www.terracycle.com	Must join a "brigage" to get mailing details
DVDs	No	Multiple	Mail	Earth911.com	NA	www.earth911.com	Check Earth911.com for the location nearest to you
Envelopes (including							
plastic windows) Envelopes (Tyvek,	Yes	NA Madriala	NA Drop Off	NA Earth911.com	NA NA	www.chicagorecycles.org	NA Check Earth911.com for the location
FedEx, etc.)	No	Multiple	and Mail	1) Earth911.com	NA	www.earth911.com 1) www.earth911.com 2) http://www.lionsclubs.org/EN/our-	nearest to you 1) Check Earth911.com for the location nearest to you
Eyeglasses	No	Multiple	Drop Off and Mail	2) Lions Club International	NA	work/sight-programs/eyeglass-recycling/how- you-can-help.php	2) Check website for the location nearest you
F							Disposable feminine hygiene products
Feminine Hygiene						1) www.gladrags.com	should be thrown away. Explore the suggested websites for reusable
Products	No	NA 	NA 	NA	NA 	2) www.divacup.com	alternatives.
Food containers	Yes	NA	NA	NA	NA	www.chicagorecycles.org https://www.comed.com/sites/homesavings/	Accepted plastics include #1-5, 7 (not #6) ComEd is offering \$35 per freezer or refrigerator. Offer only available for
Freezers	No	ComEd	NA	NA 1) Goodwill		pages/appliancerecycling.aspx 1) www.goodwill.com	working appliances.
Furniture G	No	Multiple	Drop Off	2) Salvation Army	NA	2) www.salvationarmy.com	NA
Gift cards, hotel keys	No	Multiple	1) Mail 2) Drop Off	1) Earthworks	NA	www.earthworkssystem.com www.bestbuy.com/recycling	NA Best Buy has recycling kiosks for gift cards
Glass bottles and jars	Yes	NA	NA NA	NA NA	NA	www.chicagorecycles.org	Please remove lids from glass bottles and jars before recycling
Glasses (drinkware and dishware)	No	Multiple		Goodwill Salvation Army	NA	www.goodwill.com www.salvationarmy.com	Broken glasses (drinkware) and dishes
Grass	No No	NA	NA	NA	NA NA	Z) www.saivationarmy.com	should be thrown away
H	INO	NA NA	INA	INA INA	INA	IVA	Compost yard waste, like grass clippings
				Salvation Army Recycling Information	1) NA 2) 1-800-YES-	1) www.salvationarmy.com 2) http://www.aham.org/consumer/ht/d/sp/i/4	
Household Appliances	No	Multiple	Drop Off	Center	1-CAN	7286/pid/47286	accept appliances Many dry cleaners only accept hangers
Hangers I	No	Multiple	Drop Off	Earth911.com	NA	www.earth911.com	from their store, check before dropping off
Ink Cartridges	No	Multiple	Drop Off and Mail	Earth911.com	NA	www.earth911.com	Check Earth911.com for the location nearest to you
iPods	No	Multiple	Drop Off and Mail	Earth911.com	NA	www.earth911.com	Check Earth911.com for the location nearest to you
J							
Junk mail K	Yes	NA NA	NA	NA	NA	www.chicagorecycles.org	NA NA
Keys	No	Keys for Kindness	Mail	PO Box 201, Pearl River NY, 10965	NA	www.keysforkindness.com	NA
Kitty litter L	No	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	Kitty litter should be thrown away
Linens M	No	Multiple	Drop Off	1) Goodwill 2) Salvation Army	NA	1) www.goodwill.com 2) www.salvationarmy.com	NA
Magazines & catalogs	Yes	NA	NA	NA	NA	www.chicagorecycles.org	NA
			Drop Off	1) 111 N. State St, Chicago IL 2) 845 N. Michigan	1) 312-781- 3010 2) 312-335-		
Make-up containers Mattress and box	No	Origins		Ave., Chicago, IL 1) Goodwill	7911	www.origins.com 1) www.goodwill.com	NA
spring	No	Multiple	Drop Off	2) Salvation Army	NA	2) www.salvationarmy.com	NA

	Is Material accepted						
	in Chicago's Blue Cart	Alternative	Mail or				
Material	Program or at Recycling Drop-Off	Recycling Outlet	Drop-Off Program	Address	Phone	Website	Details and/or Restrictions
	Centers?			1) Chicago Police Area			
				Headquarters:			
				a) 5101 S. Wentworth			
				Ave., Chicago IL 60609 b) 727 E. 111th St.,			
				Chicago IL 60628			
				c) 2452 W. Belmont			
			Drop Off	Ave, Chicago IL 60618 d) 3151 W. Harrison			
			ргор Оп	St., Chicago IL 60612			
				e) 5555 W. Grand			
				Ave., Chicago IL 60639 2) Household Chemicals			
				& Computer Recycling			
				Facility (1150 N. North			1) Open 24 hours a day, 7 days a week
Medicine (prescription and over-the-counter)	No	Multiple		Branch St., Chicago IL 60642)	NA	NA www.cityofchicago.org/Environment	2) Hours: Tu 7-noon; Th 2-7pm, 1st Saturday of the month 8am - 3 pm
and over me country	110	·		00042	1.0.	27 WWW.enyore.meago.org/ Environment	calcrady of the month call. I o pin
		Household Chemicals		1150 NI NI ath Dans ah			Harris To Zona at Th 2 Zona 1 th Cabradon
Motor oil	No	& Computer Recycling Facility	Drop Off	1150 N. North Branch St., Chicago IL 60642	NA	www.cityofchicago.org/Environment	Hours: Tu 7-noon; Th 2-7pm, 1st Saturday of the month 8am - 3 pm
		, , , ,	Drop Off	,		,	Check Earth911.com for the location
MP3 players	No	Multiple	and Mail	Earth911.com	NA	www.earth911.com	nearest to you
N							
Newspapers	Yes	NA	NA	NA	NA	www.chicagorecycles.org	NA
							Plastic bags, including newspaper sleeves, should be brought to your grocery store or
Newspaper sleeves	No	Multiple	Drop Off	NA	NA	NA	pharmacy for recycling
Notebooks	Yes	NA	NA	NA	NA	www.chicagorecycles.org	If possible, remove metal spiral binding
0					1		
Office paper	Yes	NA	NA	NA	NA	www.chicagorecycles.org	NA
		Household Chemicals					
Paint (oil based only)	No	& Computer Recycling Facility	Dran Off	1150 N. North Branch St., Chicago IL 60642	NA	www.cityofchicago.org/Environment	Hours: Tu 7-noon; Th 2-7pm, 1st Saturday of the month 8am - 3 pm
raint (oil basea only)	INO	Earth Paints	ргор Оп	St., Chicago IL 60642	INA	www.ciryorcnicago.org/ Environment	or the month dam - 3 pm
Paint (latex)	No	Collection Systems	Drop Off	Multiple	NA	www.earthpaintscs.com	Check their website for recycling fees
							Used paper towels should be thrown
Paper towels (used)	No	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	away. If lightly used, they can be composted.
Paper towel rolls	Yes	NA NA	NA	NA NA	NA	www.chicagorecycles.org	NA
						ŭ , ŭ	Broken or old pens and pencils should be
Pens and pencils	No	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	thrown away
		Household Chemicals					
		& Computer		1150 N. North Branch			Hours: Tu 7-noon; Th 2-7pm, 1st Saturday
Pesticides	No	Recycling Facility		St., Chicago IL 60642	NA	www.cityofchicago.org/Environment	of the month 8am - 3 pm
Phone books	Yes	NA	NA	NA	NA	www.chicagorecycles.org	NA
Phones (including cordless)	No	Multiple	Drop Off	Goodwill Salvation Army	NA	www.goodwill.com www.salvationarmy.com	Donate only working phones. Broken phones should be thrown away.
cordiessj	140	Moniple	Diop Oil	2) Salvalion Army	INA	2) www.surumonumy.com	Unwanted photographs should be thrown
Photographs	No	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	away.
Plastics #1-5, 7	Yes	NA	NA	NA	NA	www.chicagorecycles.org	NA
Plastic #6 or							#6 plastics and unnumbered plastics
unnumbered	No	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	should be thrown away. Plastic shopping bags can be recycled at
Plastic Bags (for							grocery stores, pharmacy's and many big
residents)	No	Multiple	Drop Off	PlasticBagRecycling.org	NA	o://www.plasticbagrecycling.org/01.0/s01.1.	
				1)			
				PlasticBagRecycling.org			
				 Better Containers, Hyde Park, Hillside, 			
				IL 60162	1) NA		
				3) G2 Revolution, 650	2) 800-831-	1)	
				E. Algonquin Road, Suite 401, Schaumburg, IL		http://www.plasticbagrecycling.org/01.0/s0 1.1.php	
Plastic Bags (for			Drop Off	401, Schaumburg, IL 60173-3846	3) 847.925.980		
businesses)	No	NA	and Mail		0	3) http://www.g2rev.com/	NA
						www.chicagorecycles.org	Bottle caps are only recyclable at some of
						(see notes: http://www.aveda.com/aboutaveda/caps.tmp	the state control facilities. To consider and
Plastic Bottle Caps	Yes (see notes)	NA	NA	NA	NA	l?ngextredir=1)	are recycled, take them to a nearby Aveda store.
Plastic Storage Bags	(222 1.0.00)						Plastic storage bags and wrap should be
and Plastic Wrap	No	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA NA	thrown away after use
	No	Multiple	Drop Off	Goodwill Salvation Army	NA	www.goodwill.com www.salvationarmy.com	NA
Pots and pans							
Pots and pans				1			
Q		NA	NΔ	NA	NΔ	NA	Qtips and other health products should be thrown away after use.
	No	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	Qtips and other health products should be thrown away after use.
Q Qtips		NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	thrown away after use.
Q Qtips		NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	

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Refrigerators	No	ComEd	NA	NA	1-888-806-227	https://www.comed.com/sites/homesavings/ pages/appliancerecycling.aspx	ComEd is offering \$35 per freezer or refrigerator. Offer only available for working appliances.
Reusable Bags	No	ChicoBag	Mail	C/O Zero Waste Program, 349 Huss Drive, Chico, CA 95928	NA	http://www.chicobag.com/t-repurposing_program.aspx	For broken or no longer usable reusable bags
Rugs	No	Multiple		Goodwill Salvation Army	NA	1) www.goodwill.com 2) www.salvationarmy.com	NA NA
S	110	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	DIOP OII	2) Garranon 7 amy		z, mm.saranonamy.com	100
							Sanitary products, like wipes, feminine products, diapers and incontinence pads, facial and toilet tissue, should be thrown
Sanitary products	No	NA	NA	NA 1) Goodwill	NA	NA 1) www.goodwill.com	away after use.
Shoes	No	Multiple	Drop Off	2) Salvation Army 3) Soles4Souls	NA	2) www.salvationarmy.com 3) www.soles4souls.org	NA
Shopping bags (paper)	Yes	NA	NA	NA	NA	www.chicagorecycles.org	NA
Shopping bags (plastic)	No	Multiple	Drop Off	NA	NA	NA NA	NA All Chicago gracery stores are required to accept plastic shopping bags for recycling. Bags from other stores are also accepted.
		·		1) Goodwill		1) www.goodwill.com	·
Silverware (metal)	No	Multiple	Drop Off	2) Salvation Army	NA	2) www.salvationarmy.com	NA Plastic silverware can be rinsed and
Silverware (plastic)	No	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	reused, or thrown away after use
Snackbag liners	No	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	Plastic snackbag liners should be thrown away
Spray paint (empty)	Yes	NA	NA	NA	NA	www.chicagorecycles.org	NA NA
Spray paint (not	No	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	Consider donating unused spray paint to a school or local art program
empty) Steel cans	Yes	NA NA	NA NA	NA NA	NA NA	www.chicagorecycles.org	NA
Styrofoam (#6 Foam)	No	Dart	Drop Off	310 Evergreen Drive, North Aurora, IL	NA	http://www.dart.biz/web/environ.nsf/pages/drop off.html	Accept all foam except packing peanuts Check with your closest pack-and-ship store (Mailboxes Etc., UPS) to drop off
T							
Televisions (working or broken; LCD, Plasma, and CRT)	No	Household Chemicals & Computer Recycling Facility		1150 N. North Branch St., Chicago IL 60642	NA	NA	Hours: Tuesday 7am-noon; Thursdays 2- 7pm, 1st Saturday of the month 8am-3pm
Tennis balls	No	Rebounces	Mail	NA	NA	www.rebounces.com	NA
Text Books	No	Reading Tree: Books for Charity	Drop Off	NA	NA	http://www.readingtree.org/content.aspx?id=	I NA
Textiles (household)	No	USAgain	Drop Off	NA	NA	http://www.usagain.com/	NA
Tires	No	Multiple	Drop Off	Earth911.com	NA	www.earth911.com	Some locations may charge per tire -call before making the trip
Toilet paper roll	Yes	NA	NA	NA	NA	www.chicagorecycles.org	NA NA
T	N						Purchase Preserve toothbrushes and mail back later. The handles are made from recycled yogurt containers and made into
Toothbrush	No	Preserve Products	Mail	1) Goodwill		www.preserveproducts.com 1) www.goodwill.com	new products
Toys U	No	Multiple	Drop Off	2) Salvation Army	NA	2) www.salvationarmy.com	NA
J				1) Goodwill		1) www.goodwill.com	
Umbrellas V	No	Multiple	Drop Off	2) Salvation Army	NA	2) www.salvationarmy.com	Working umbrellas only
·			Drop Off				Check Earth911.com for the location
Video tapes	No	Multiple	and Mail	Earth911.com	NA	www.earth911.com	nearest to you
Vehicles W	No	Multiple	Drop off	Earth911.com	NA	www.earth911.com	Working vehicles can be donated
Waterbottles (reusable)	No	Multiple	Drop Off	Goodwill Salvation Army	NA	1) www.goodwill.com 2) www.salvationarmy.com	NA
Wipes and sponges	No	NA	NA	, NA	NA	NA	Wipes and sponges should be thrown away after use
Wrapping paper	Yes	NA	NA	NA	NA	www.chicagorecycles.org	Be sure to remove bows, tags, and ribbon
Z							-
Zippered bags	No	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	Zippered bags can be reused and thrown away